PTO/SB/01 (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Attorney Docket Number 1576-003 DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR First Named Inventor DESIGN Joseph J. Berke COMPLETE IF KNOWN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63) **Application Number** Filing Date Declaration Declaration Submitted OR Submitted after Initial Art Unit With Initial Filing (surcharge Filing (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) **Examiner Name** required) I hereby declare that: Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name. I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: FORK WITH TINE PROTECTOR GUARD AND METHOD (Title of the Invention) the specification of which х is attached hereto OR was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable). I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed. **Prior Foreign Application** Foreign Filing Date Priority Certified Copy Attached? Number(s) Country (MM/DD/YYYY) **Not Claimed** Yes

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto. [Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 115 and 37 CFR 1.63. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

Address City State ZIP Country Telephone Fax I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon. NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Joseph J. Pamily Name or Sumame Perke Country West Bloomfield Michigan Name Of SECOND INVENTOR: Tamily Name Ottizenship U.S.A. A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Citizenship U.S.A. A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Citizenship U.S.A. A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Citizenship Country West Bloomfield Michigan Name (first and middle [if any]) Family Name or Sumame City A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Citizenship Country Family Name or Sumame Family Name or Sumame City State Country Citizenship Date State Country Citizenship Citizenship Citizenship Citizenship Citizenship Citizenship	Direct all correspondence to:	Customer Number or Bar Code Labe		324	OR _	Corresp	pondence address below	
City Country Telephone Fax Telephone Fax I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon. NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Joseph J. Family Name or Surname Berke Date II—H—2003 Residence: City State Country West Bloomfield Michigan V.S.A. A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor City West Bloomfield Michigan A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Signature A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Family Name or Surname Family Name or Surname Family Name or Surname Date Country West Bloomfield Michigan A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Inventor's Signature Residence: City State Country Citizenship Citizenship Citizenship								
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Inventor's Signature Residence: City State Country Citizenship				<u>, </u>	Family Name			
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Additional inventors or a legal representative are being named on thesupplemental sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A or 02LR attached hereto.								